

2013 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Message from the Mayor

Seattle is a city of neighborhoods, and our neighborhoods are as diverse as their residents. But whether it's Haller Lake or Rainier View, we all want a place we feel at home. We all deserve neighborhoods that are safe, livable, healthy and affordable. We all benefit from neighborhoods that bring us closer together. We are at our best when engaged with each other and working together for the sake of our community.

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods was created 26 years ago to help Seattle residents become more engaged—not only with each other, but with city government as well. The department has taken this vision and created programs and resources that help us connect as neighbors, get involved in our neighborhoods, and form communities.

The department has important work to do, and we need your help and guidance to plan for the future. Your passion and creativity can help us make Seattle's neighborhoods the best in the nation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ed Murray'.

MAYOR ED MURRAY
CITY OF SEATTLE



Message from the Director

2013 was special for Seattle Department of Neighborhoods! We celebrated our 25th year, all of which culminated in a delightful community celebration at MOHAI. In addition, we recognized the 25th year of the Neighborhood Matching Fund, as well as the 40-year anniversaries of Historic Preservation, Neighborhood District Coordinators, and the P-Patch Community Gardening Program.

As always, our mission is to provide programs that support neighbors working toward a more connected community and to encourage and engage community members in civic processes. When all community members have a say and a stake in the process, the results can only be successful. And my charge is to lead our department in delivering on our mission and ensuring that all walks of life in every neighborhood have the opportunity to be involved and to make change.

In this report, you'll read about the activities and accomplishments of 2013. So what's happening in 2014? Here are just a few activities to look forward to:

- Up to 150 new households getting a P-Patch plot with the construction of new or expanded gardens.
- Thirty graduates from the PACE leadership development program connecting with their neighborhoods.
- Additional neighborhood projects funded with the increase to the Neighborhood Matching Fund budget.

And that's just the start. With every day, I am impressed with the dedication and creativity of our staff to educate, involve, connect, and engage Seattleites where they are and to open the way to those who are new to civic engagement or to support those already involved.

Thank you to everyone who helped to create and celebrate the department. And as I reflect on the last 25 years, here's to 2014 and beyond!

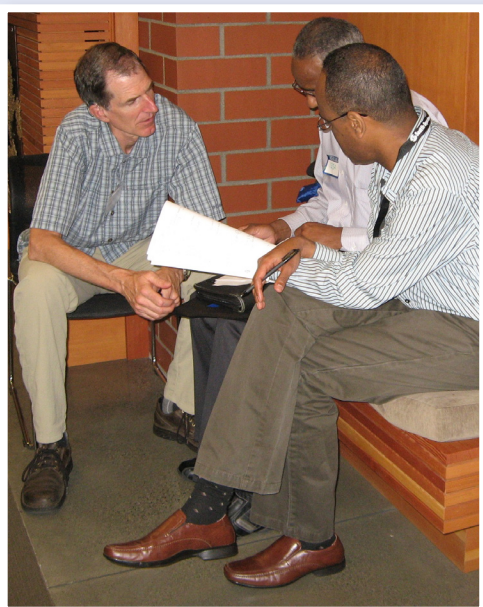
Warmly,

Bernie Matsuno
BERNIE AGOR MATSUNO, DIRECTOR

ENGAGING COMMUNITY

We work to engage residents, businesses, and organizations that make up a neighborhood so they can have a voice and opportunity to make a difference where they live. Using our networks, we play a critical role as liaisons between city departments and community members in dozens of city initiatives and projects. Our programs are dedicated to meaningful, inclusive community engagement for all community members, especially the historically underserved.

NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT COORDINATORS



Neighborhood District Coordinator meeting with community leaders.

The nine coordinators are the neighborhood's primary liaisons to the city providing direct support for community groups and residents, including the city's 13 neighborhood district councils. Our team is on the ground sharing connections and providing tools to help neighborhoods solve problems collectively or advance ideas. They work in one of three regional teams: North, South, and Central.

Our Neighborhood District Coordinators (NDC) worked with community members to address a range of neighborhood issues including transit planning, public safety, and capital infrastructure. They also provided strategic advice and outreach support for city planning initiatives. Below is a sampling of the projects they worked on:

North Region

Lake City Neighborhood Action Team organizing
University District Livability Partnership planning

South Region

Bridge to Beach Makeover - Rainier Valley community-wide clean-up organizing
Community Cornerstone - Othello neighborhood visioning
Neighborhood Action Team for East Duwamish Greenbelt

Central Region

Uptown Urban Design Framework outreach
Cascade Neighborhood Action Team organizing
23rd Avenue Action Plan outreach

Lastly, NDCs promoted and helped the District Councils participate in the review of applications to the Neighborhood Park and Street Fund, Bridging the Gap - Neighborhood Street Fund, and the Neighborhood Matching Fund Large Projects Fund.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT



POEL leading discussion regarding the Multicultural Community Center.

The Public Outreach and Engagement Liaison Program (POEL) implements the city's commitment to race and social justice and inclusive outreach and engagement through the meaningful inclusion of historically underrepresented communities. Staff uses "bridge-builders" who are part of their respective community's cultures, as well as bi-lingual, to work directly with these communities.

The POEL Program was utilized by nine city departments and engaged nearly 1000 historically underrepresented community members in 13 projects across the city. The departments included: Mayor's Office, Department of Planning and Development, Seattle City Light, Office of Economic Development, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Police Department, Office for Education, Office for Civil Rights, and Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs.

PEOPLE'S ACADEMY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The People's Academy for Community Engagement (PACE) builds the skills of emerging community leaders on a variety of leadership and community engagement topics. Organized by a team of Neighborhood District Coordinators, it began its second pilot year in September at Seattle University. The 26 participants, with more than half from historically underrepresented communities, are attending monthly sessions, in addition to organizing community projects. The projects range from a North Seattle Business Expo to the Rainier Valley Pop-Up Greenway. The graduation is in May.

Drawn from community groups, non-profit organizations, and local government, PACE's 20 facilitators and 10 advisory board members have been involved in informing and shaping the program for its participants.



PACE participants practicing meeting facilitation techniques.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT



Community members discuss next steps for the 23rd Avenue Action Plan.

In collaboration with the Department of Planning and Development and Department of Transportation, our staff works toward meaningful outreach and participation in planning and community development projects. In 2013, the focus was on community development planning for 23rd Avenue at Union, Cherry, and S. Jackson Streets in the Central Area.

Our staff organized the outreach, held multiple gatherings, and supported the execution of large community forums to gather input and help the community prioritize investments. More than 600 people, including those from seven historically underrepresented communities, participated in developing the 23rd Avenue Action Plan. Our staff recruited and supported the 23rd Avenue ACT (Advisory Core Team) that will implement the plan, and are working with "Action Teams" to focus on the five priority areas of the Action Plan. The ACT has already been successful—it received an "Only in Seattle" grant and has put forth projects to the Neighborhood Park and Street Fund. More to come in 2014!

BUILDING COMMUNITY

These programs serve as catalysts to help community members strengthen neighborhood relationships and collectively accomplish neighborhood-initiated projects to enhance their quality of life as well as positively impact the lives of their neighbors.

NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND

Recognized internationally, the Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) provides matching dollars for projects initiated, planned, and implemented by community members. Built around the concept of self-help, it helps community groups bring their ideas to life for making Seattle a better place to work, live, and play.

In 2013 the Large Projects Fund process was streamlined for applicants and review team members. Rather than applicants presenting to two review teams, they presented to both at one time. This made the process more efficient and effective in terms of time and transparency for the applicants, volunteer review team members, and city staff.

The NMF program greatly reduced the time required to execute contracts for funded projects by using our web-based system to electronically deliver and receive signed contracts.

To support neighborhoods participating in the annual Seattle Night Out (a program of the Seattle Police Dept.), the Small Sparks Fund awarded \$14,110 for 24 Night Out events that was matched by the community in the amount of \$17,977.



West Seattle Bee Garden and Festival in High Point.

2013 NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND AWARDS STATISTICS

Type of Fund	Number of Applications	Number of Awards	Award Amount	Community Match
Large Projects	6	6	\$465,370	\$936,341
Small and Simple	115	69	\$1,341,832	\$1,607,069
Small Sparks	90	71	\$55,604	\$136,957
Total	211	146*	\$1,862,806	\$2,680,366

*Of the 146 awards, 41 were given in the North Region, 42 in the South Region, 41 in the Central Region, and 22 were citywide projects.

P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM



Gardener work party at Ravenna P-Patch community garden.

Now up in 85 locations, P-Patch community gardens are spaces created and maintained by volunteers. Our staff manages the largest municipally-operated gardening program in the nation west of New York City and serves more than 2800 households on 32 acres.

Mainly funded through the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy, five new gardens opened: Bitter Lake, John C. Little in NewHolly, Magnolia Manor in Magnolia, Sunrise in Rainier Vista, and Westcrest in West Seattle. Additional savings from the Levy were provided to build five more gardens which are underway. They include Licton Springs in Northgate, Horiuchi Park in First Hill, Broadway Hill Park on Capitol Hill, plus Seattle Farms, an urban agriculture pilot project, Beacon Food Forest, a permaculture and garden project, and a garden renovation at Judkins P-Patch in the Central Area.

Gardeners donated 28,637 pounds of organic produce to food banks and hot meal programs (9% increase from 2012) in partnership with Solid Ground's

Lettuce Link Program, and volunteered 32,500 hours to make their gardens inviting neighborhood spaces. They also invited neighbors to more than 50 classes, concerts, and festivals held in the gardens.

The P-Patch Program and Seattle Office of Emergency Management received a \$35,000 Community Resilience Award from FEMA to establish community hubs at P-Patches that will serve as gathering places in an emergency. The funds supported volunteer training, translation, and emergency hub kits at 12 gardens with more to come in 2014.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY

These two programs engage and support committees and boards made up of community members who, by ordinance, have the ability to influence the character of neighborhoods for the betterment of all.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Seattle residents are directly involved in setting high standards for both rehabilitation and new construction, thereby ensuring community treasures are preserved and our neighborhoods remain strong.

The Landmarks Preservation Board considered 27 landmark nominations and designated eight landmarks including Union Stables, Montlake School, and the Northwest Rooms at Seattle Center. It reviewed large rehabilitation and new construction projects in South Lake Union involving several designated landmarks including Troy Laundry and the Boren Investment Company Warehouse Building and the Pacific-Ford McKay Building.

Examples of projects approved in the historic districts include: final design of the Angeline, a mixed-use project (Columbia City Landmark District); restoration of the Sanborn Building (Ballard Avenue Landmark District); and the temporary removal of the Washington Street Boat Landing during construction of the seawall (Pioneer Square Preservation Board).

The Landmarks Preservation Board and eight Historic District boards and commissions took action on 491 applications, known as Certificates of Approval, for proposed changes to landmarks or properties within historic districts.



Judge Ronald House located in the Central Area.

MAJOR INSTITUTIONS AND SCHOOLS PROGRAM



Swedish Medical Center's Cherry Hill Campus - presently undergoing Master Plan development.

Seattle has 13 designated institutions and schools—hospitals, colleges and universities—considered vital to the community. Our staff convenes Citizen Advisory Committees that review and comment on each institution's master plan, a requirement for future development. Our staff ensures neighborhood input is included in all the plans.

Neighbors participated in development of new master plans for the Swedish Medical Center's Cherry Hill Campus, along with the Virginia Mason Medical Center which was completed and adopted by the Seattle City Council.

Standing Advisory Committees continued to review projects under construction at all of the major institutions, particularly Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle Pacific University, Northwest Hospital, and Harborview Medical Center. At Harborview Medical Center, the Committee participated in the review of significant amendments to its master plan that would create both an open plaza and new medical office space.

Our staff also formed a School Departure Advisory Committee for Genesee Hill Elementary School in West Seattle. It made formal recommendations regarding zoning changes requested by Seattle Public Schools.

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Our internal team works to support our programs and deliver timely information and efficient service to our customers, city staff, and community members.

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE Our Accounting Team continued its speedy processing of invoices with 97% of reimbursement checks issued within 48 hours. This was especially helpful for small businesses in managing their cash flow.

CONTRACTING Our department was once again #1 citywide in using Women and Minority Business Enterprise (WMBE) firms for our consultant and purchasing spending.

OUR WORKFORCE As we strive to reflect the communities we serve, we are proud that the majority of our workforce is comprised of people of color as well as females in all major job categories. Those categories include Officials/Managers, Professionals, and Office/Clerical staff.

COMMUNICATIONS Our Twitter followers jumped by 78%, and Facebook presence grew by 34%. Views to our Front Porch blog increased markedly from 2012. In addition, we recognized our department's and four of our programs' anniversaries with the development of a branding campaign used in internal and external collateral, messaging, social media, and website.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The world came to see our P-Patch Community Gardening Program. Along with local partners, our staff hosted the 2013 American Community Gardening Association Conference. More than 350 attendees from across the U.S. and the world participated in more than 80 workshops and tours of Seattle's community gardens and food projects.

Our department co-sponsored the Pacific Science Center's RACE Exhibit held last fall, and two of our staff facilitated workshops for more than 250 community members and staff to discuss and reflect on the exhibit.

Staff from the P-Patch, Neighborhood District Coordinators, and Historic Preservation programs hosted a tour of the NewHolly Market Garden and the Columbia City Landmark District for 50 elected and government officials during the 2013 National League of Cities Annual Conference.

Throughout the year, our department celebrated its 25th Anniversary, along with the 25th Anniversary of the Neighborhood Matching Fund, and the 40th Anniversaries of the P-Patch Community Gardening Program, Neighborhood District Coordinators, and Historic Preservation programs. The recognition culminated in an October celebration at the Museum of History and Industry with more than 500 community members, volunteers, former and present staff, and stakeholders.



25th Anniversary Celebration - past and present staff.

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS THAT WORK WITH OUR PROGRAMS

OUR BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Landmarks Preservation Board
Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board
Pike Place Market Historical Commission
Pioneer Square Preservation Board
International Special Review District Board
Columbia City Review Committee
Harvard – Belmont Landmark District Committee

City – University (of Washington) Citizens Advisory Committee (CUCAC)
Harborview Medical Center Citizens Advisory Committee
Seattle Central Community College Citizens Advisory Committee
Seattle Children's Standing Advisory Committee
Seattle Pacific University Citizens Advisory Committee
Seattle University Citizens Advisory Committee
Swedish Medical Center – Cherry Hill Campus Citizens Advisory Committee
Virginia Mason Medical Center Citizens Advisory Committee
Genesee Hill Elementary School Departure Advisory Committee

North Rainier – Lighthouse for the Blind Committee
Rainier Beach Moving Forward
Haller Lake – Bitter Lake Neighborhood Advisory Committee
23rd Avenue Advisory Core Team

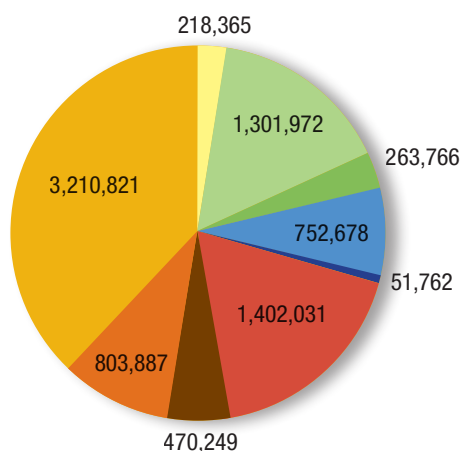
City Neighborhood Council
Ballard District Council
Central Area District Council
Delridge Neighborhoods District Council
Downtown District Council
East District Council
Greater Duwamish District Council
Lake Union District Council
Magnolia/Queen Anne District Council
North District Council
Northeast District Council
Northwest District Council
Southeast District Council
Southwest District Council

Neighborhood Matching Fund Citywide Review Team
Neighborhood Matching Fund District Council Review Teams

P-Patch Community Gardening Program Volunteers
2013 American Community Gardening Association Organizing Committee

Multicultural Community Center Steering Committee
PACE community instructors/facilitators
PACE Advisory Board

2013 PROGRAM BUDGET



2013 NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND AWARDS

SMALL SPARKS FUND

Maiwut Sudanese Organization
Belltown CC/ABCD Training Event Steering Committee
Husky Neighbors United
Beacon Hill Garden Club
Concerned Citizens of Genesee Junction
Providence Vincent House
Queen Anne Greenways
Sisters Organize for Survival
Leschi Business Association/Leschi Community Council
West African Community Council
Wedgwood Community Council
Concord International Elementary PTA
GAME
West African Community Council
Jackson Park P-Patch
Pike Street Market Senior Center & Food Bank
Neighborhood Night Out Block Party at Cedar Park
Protocol Foundation
Lakeview Apartments Residents
Merchants of Japantown
Phinney Ridge Community Council
Roosevelt Neighborhood Association
Friends of Nord Alley
Victory Heights Community Council
Kelly Welker
Lake City Greenways Project
North Beacon Hill Neighbors
Night Out Rainier Beach South Seattle
Cherry Hill Community Council
From Hiroshima to Hope
Peoples Family Life Center: Work-It-Out Seattle
Belltown Citizens on Patrol, Belltown Community Council
21st Avenue Night Out
Demetrius DuBose Memorial
Greenwood-Phinney Greenways
Friends of 19th and Madison Park
Letitia Neighborhood Group
Friends of 2nd Avenue
44th Burke Block Watch
YMCA - PugetSoundOff
White Center Chamber of Commerce
Green Lake Plaza Community Council
Camp Long Neighborhood
U District Square
University House Resident Council
36th Ave W Neighbors
What's Good 206
Esperanza Residents Steering Committee
Ross Community Club
LHPAI Parent Ambassadors (Langston Hughes)
Alleycat Acres
Justina Guyott
Lake City Greenways Project
Rainier Vista Multicultural Committee
Youth Employment Skateboarding (YES) & Skate Like A Girl
Seattle Filipino Pioneers Celebration Planning Committee
Northwest Museum of Legends and Lore
Base Camp Parklet
Latino Community Fund of Washington
Empower Mentoring Program
North Beacon Hill Council
Highland Park Neighbors
Othello Station Community Advisory Team
Central Neighborhood Association/Central District Association
Local Motion of Rainier Valley
North by North East
Northwest Neighbors
GTown History Hunters
Colman Neighborhood Association
Cascade Neighborhood Council

SMALL AND SIMPLE PROJECTS FUND

Freeway Estates Community Orchard
Team Dragonfly
Loyal Heights Emergency Preparedness
Friends of I-5/King Street
Fiestas Patrias Festival Committee
Peoples Family Life Center: Work-It-Out Seattle
Viewlands Elementary School PTA
Broadway High School Alumni Association
Friends of Charlestown Hillclimb
Lake City Community Council
Townships Garden P-Patch at Broadway Hill Park
Leschi Elementary School
Tibet Fest Steering Committee
Community Kitchen of NewHolly
Eritrean Association of Greater Seattle
Leo P-Patch
Sustainable Northeast Seattle
All Girl Everything Ultimate Program (AGE UP)
Clean and Safe Workgroup of U-District Livability Partnership
Laurelhurst Elementary PTSA
Orca K-8 School PTSA
Backyard Barter
DE CAJÓN Project
Seattle Indian Health Board
Jackson Commons
lu-Mien American Association
Seattle Children's PlayGarden
Red Eagle Soaring
Asian Counseling and Referral Service
Pathfinder K-8 PTSA
First Hill Improvement Association
Belltown Business Association
Ballard Chamber of Commerce
Central District Youth with Purpose
Lake City Greenways Project
Othello Park Alliance
Greenwood P-Patch
Renaissance 21
West Seattle High School PTSA
Judkins P-Patch
Seattle Youth Recreation Foundation
Sand Point Elementary PTA
35th Ave Committee
Longhouse Media
Friends of Licorice Fern Natural Area
West Seattle Bee Garden
12th Ave Stewards
Yesler Terrace Youth Media
Seattle People of Color Salon
High Point Neighborhood Association
Somali Community Services of Seattle
Groundswell NW
Three Generations, Ltd.
Gender Diversity
Friends of Seward Park
Bikeworks
Sundiata African American Cultural Association
@FutureTrippin
RV Steering Committee
Magnuson Community Garden
North Seattle Boys & Girls Club
Jackson Place Business Association
El Centro de la Raza (2 awards)
Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience
Gender Justice League
View Ridge Elementary PTA
Sanctuary Art Center
Friends of Lewis Park

LARGE PROJECTS FUND

Friends of Lower Kinnear Park
Montlake Family Fitness
Madison Valley Community Council
View Ridge Elementary PTA
Central Area Urban Gardeners
Historic Seattle

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods strengthens the city of Seattle by actively engaging all communities. Through our programs and services, we meet people where they are, and support neighbors working toward a more cohesive community that celebrates diversity, encourages engagement, and creates a more livable city.



Web: seattle.gov/neighborhoods
Blog: frontporch.seattle.gov/
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Facebook: [SeattleNeighborhoods](https://www.facebook.com/SeattleNeighborhoods)
Flickr: [flickr.com/photos/seattleneighborhoods](https://www.flickr.com/photos/seattleneighborhoods)

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